ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention comprises a method and apparatus for reducing uncertainty in timing on the network. The uncertainty in receive buffers is removed by time stamping the arriving packets before sending the packets to the receive buffer. The uncertainty in the transmission buffer is removed by giving the packets a timestamp in the future, and holding the packets until precisely that time. Time precision is ensured by only releasing time packets at the host physical layer to network boundary at the time specified within the packet.